

In the schoolmaster's house. One big room served as kitchen, dining room, parlour and classroom.



fitting her station as the wife of a professional man, and it is elegant indeed with its red and white striped satin settee. But the heart of this house is its huge dining room. Beyond it in the back parlour, forerunner of the "family room" fashionable today, her half finished knitting lies as if put down only a moment ago.

The schoolmaster and his wife and baby, with their three or four boarding pupils, are separated a whole generation from the prosperous inhabitants of the lavishly furnished Loucks' stone house, as well as by differences in material wealth. His little house, nevertheless, is vastly superior to an earlier Loucks' house also shown nearby. For the first Loucks, newly arrived to take up his land grant, hewed a house out of the forest quickly to shelter his family until he could build a better one. In the farm complex that first house now is used for livestock while the second one, comparatively superior, became a hired man's house as increasing affluence blessed succeeding generations of Loucks. The final and very grand 1860 stone house shows changes that were not all for the best; for in it the simple grace of early Canadian furniture gives way to the over-ornamented pomposity of the beginning of the plush Victorian era.

There are two inns. Cook's tavern was rebuilt with its original bricks and looks as if at any moment great meat pies would emerge onto the tables from its huge kitchen with massive fireplace and pewter lined shelves. In Willard's Hotel the visitor can sit down to a tasty meal and rest his feet before continuing his tour. There is much to see and he must be careful to miss nothing. For instance, he might not guess what a cosy little retreat the French-Robertson stables provide upstairs for the coachman.

The splendid park in which the Village stands is one of a chain covering 6,000 acres

in a hundred and seventy-mile strip along the St. Lawrence, administered by the Commission. It commemorates the Battle of Crysler's Farm, one of the decisive victories of the war of 1812 in which greatly outnumbered British and Canadian troops defeated the American forces. In preventing the Americans from continuing on to attack Montreal, the victory was a determining factor in Canada's destiny of nationhood. A 600-foot wide mall, extending about half a mile in from the highway, leads to a forty-foot high mound overlooking the St. Lawrence. Atop the tree-dotted mound is a monument to Loyalist soldiers.

A long low building at the foot of the mound, the Battle Memorial, contains two courts of honour and mementos of the battle itself. A huge mural, painted by famed Canadian artist S. Sherriff Scott, takes up one whole wall. It is strikingly executed in minute detail. A published account, "The Day of Crysler's Farm" has been written by the Director of Historic Sites for the Ontario Government, Mr. Ronald L. Way. Prior to directing operations at Upper Canada Village, Mr. Way had already given Canadians a valuable military museum in the restoration of Old Fort Henry.

There is far more to the Village than its old-fashioned charm. It has a purpose—to preserve the Canadian heritage, and to achieve this requires more than museums displaying furniture and artifacts in static array. These are important too, of course, and the Village contains two in addition to the one described in the Battle Memorial. The home of Col. John Pliny Crysler, a descendant of the Park's namesake, was dismantled at its location three miles west on Highway 2 and reconstructed in the Village as a Museum of Settlement. These documents, furniture, clothes, toys, jewellery, instruments and pictures illustrate the pioneer way of life. The Agricultural Museum,